

Message Text

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42

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 /010 W
----- 051218

O 171533Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3984
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL KADUNA IMMEDIATE

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USIA FOR IAA, IC8/CA, DR. LETITIA BROWN, (BCICA)

SECSTATE FOR CU/AF AND AF

KADUNA PASS TO KANO

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: N/A
SUBJ: ARASC CANCELLATION

REF : LAGOS 3278

1. UNILAG VC AJAYI INFORMED PAO BY PHONE AND ACAO SHAW WHO ATTENDING ARASC LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE (LPC) MEETING AT UNILAG THAT HE RECEIVED MESSAGE LAST NIGHT FROM INSPECTOR GENERAL NIGERIAN POLICE (IG) STATING THAT "ARASC SHOULD NOT PROCEED." NO REASONS FOR CANCELLATION CITED BY AJAYI SAID DECISION IS FINAL. AJAYI OBVIOUSLY SURPRISED AT DECISION, SAID INFORMAL REACTIONS FROM MEA DEPUTY PERMSEC, MEA AMERICAS DIVISION DIRECTOR AND MIDDLE-ECHELON IG OFFICIALS HAD INDICATED NO FMG OBJECTIONS TO ARASC PROCEEDING AS SCHEDULED. AJAYI SPECULATED THAT DUE "CURRENT SITUATION," INCLUDING POSSIBLE RAMIFICATIONS SEEMINGLY WIDESPREAD INVOLVEMENT IN COUP ATTEMPT RUMORED TO BE INDICATED IN COUP PLOTTERS' TESTIMONY, FMG DOES NOT WANT LARGE GATHERING OF DISTINGUISHED FOREIGNERS TO TAKE PLACE IN NIGERIA AT THIS TIME. AJAYI INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT

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BELIEVE POSSIBILITY ANTI-AMERICAN, ANTI-ARASC STUDENT

DEMONSTRATIONS WAS SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN DECISION. HE ASSURED ACAA THAT OTHER SCHEDULED POST PROGRAM ACTIVITIES WITH UNILAG (FULBRIGHT REQUESTS, FILM SHOWINGS, LECTURES) ARE NOT EFFECTED BY ARASC CANCELLATION.

2. POST PREPARING CIRCULAR TELEGRAM TO INFORM PARTICIPATING POSTS OF CANCELLATION. LPC SECRETARY PLANNING SEND TELEGRAMS TO ALL PARTICIPANTS INDICATING ARASC "POSTPONED DUE CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND UNILAG'S CONTROL." POST HAS STOPPED TICKET ISSUANCE BY PAN AMERICAN. PROCEEDING REVIEW FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO DATE WITH AND WILL ADVISE ASAP.

3. LPC MEETING THIS MORNING, AND AJAYI, SUGGESTED ARASC MIGHT BE RESCHEDULED FOR UNIVERSITY OF LEGON, GHANA IN JULY. AJAYI REJECTED POSSIBILITY HOLDING ARASC AT UNILAG LATER THIS YEAR. (PAO HAD IMPRESSION AJAYI ASSUMING GENERAL SITUATION WILL REMAIN UNSETTLED FOR SOMETIME TO COME.) SUGGEST AGENCY INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY LPC SUGGESTION ASAP.

4. REGARDING POST PROGRAMMING OF ARASC AMSPECS, FONER IS SCHEDULED BY BRANCH POSTS APR 5-10 AND POST AWAITING RESPONSES FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES FOR PROPOSED LECTURES BY OTHER ARASC AMSPECS. (FYI--UNILAG WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING DUE MAR 20- APRIL 12 SPRING VACATION WHICH ANNOUNCED ONLY TODAY.)

5. ADVISE.
HEDGES

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